

# ISTITUTO SIEROTERAPICO MILANESE



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TELEGRAM: SIEROTERAPICO MILANO

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Milano, Feb. 23rd, 1953

Dear Joshua,

I have a letter from Chain, inviting me to ~~give~~ a paper on "Genetic aspects of drug resistance", in which it is said that you also were invited, and that he has heard from Eagle that we may like to give a paper ~~together~~ jointly.

I gave you no definite answer on this point in my last letter because I believed Eagle's information might have been incorrect and, without a direct invitation I would have felt an intruder. ~~At~~ At this stage, I might as well give up the invitation and leave you as the only speaker; your own contribution to the problem is to my eyes the most important one, and the replica plating experiment with St is the only experiment which really settles all doubts on a difficult question, made more difficult by the lot of nonsense which was written on the issue. Speaking frankly, however, in my turn, I am led to accept the invitation by considerations of "local prestige", a very mean point, I am afraid. I hope you do not mind my delayed acceptance.

A joint paper would be my choice, although the bar to it may be time: manuscript should be in Chain's hands before end of April. I happened to write three papers on the topic, and, if I could have a list of your personal observations, comments and ideas as wide as possible, even in the form of scattered thoughts, I might try to write a fourth one incorporating your points in, I hope, a decent frame. The time required would be <sup>at least</sup> getting your comments then, a fortnight for concentrating on the problem, balancing your and my arguments, ordering them into a preliminary draft to be sent back to you, revised by you and sent to me ~~or~~ to Chain directly. As to order: I have usually followed mutation, recombination, mode of action (on the last point I have no experimental contributions of some importance); transduction should now be considered, probably between the first two, but I would not mind using an entirely different order.

If you think that, due to time or other reasons, this earlier proposal of yours cannot materialize, we could best share subjects. There is not much to share, however! and I would rather leave this job to you.

Could you give me some preliminary information on colli serology?

Yours

Luca.